AP English Language & Composition 2012-13

**Grammar Lesson 2: Independent Clauses & Simple Sentences**

An independent clause (IC) is the basic sentence. An independent clause has a subject and a verb (which creates full meaning—it makes sense.)

A “Simple Sentence” includes only 1 independent clause.

*Jack* runs.

Jack = subject; runs = verb

*Two words: you can’t get any simpler than that.*

The *dog* ate the kibble.

In this case, dog = subject; ate = verb; the kibble = direct object

(Slightly longer, but still pretty basic. Noun, verb, and direct object.)

Running down the hall as the bell rang, *Henry* realized he was late.

Henry = subject; realized = verb; “running down the hall” and “as the bell rang” are phrases that explain more about Henry and his situation, but this is still a “Simple Sentence” by definition: one IC (independent clause).

RULE to know: Phrases NEVER change the type of sentence, no matter how many phrases are added to the sentence.

**Grammar Lesson 3: Coordinating Conjunctions & Compound Sentences**

A “Compound Sentence” includes 2 (or more) independent clauses. The two IC are joined by a comma and a coordinating conjunction (from FANBOYS list)

*Jack* runs, and *Jane* rests.

Jack = subject 1 + runs = verb 1 AND Jane = subject 2 + rests = verb 2

The *dog* ate the kibble, yet the *cat* enjoyed caviar.

Subject 1 = dog; verb 1 = ate

Subject 2 = cat; verb 2 = enjoyed

Running down the hall as the bell rang, *Henry* realized he was late, and *he* would receive a detention.

Subject 1 = Henry; verb 1 = realized

Subject 2 = he; verb 2 = would receive

RULE to remember: Phrases NEVER change the type of sentence, no matter how many phrases are added to the sentence.

FANBOYS= for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so

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